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HIS COURAGE PROVED

The mining town of Capelton was alive with excitement. Mr. Hilton, the owner of half the mines and more than half the village, was to give a ball in honor of his son Carl's twenty-first birthday, and also to celebrate the return of his only daughter from the English school to which she had been sent when but 10 years old.

Carl Hilton was an only son, and because of his parent's indulgence had become selfish and tyrannical. His father idolized him and was blind to his faults. As Mr. Hilton had been out of health for more than a year Carl had attended to most of the business, and he had so tyrannized over the miners that they one and all hated him, but they loved and respected his father, and for his sake bore in silence the abuse of the son.

It fell to the lot of Fred Chase, one of the foremen in the mine, to escort the beautiful Nina to dinner, and so deeply did they become engaged in conversation that it was some minutes before Fred noticed that Carl sat directly opposite and was watching them closely.

"I intend to visit the mines tomorrow," said the girl in tones loud enough to be heard by her brother. "I want to descend the new shaft."

"I shall be very happy to conduct you through the mines, but you must not descend the new shaft, for it is not safe. I have warned your brother that the roof of the mine is in danger of falling, but he only laughs at me, and I fear some terrible accident will be the result of his neglect."

"You are a fool, Fred Chase! The shaft is safe enough. I shall take Nina there myself tomorrow," said Carl angrily.

"I spoke the truth. The shaft is not safe, and unless more timber is put in to support the roof you will soon have proof that I am right."

"Pooh! You are a coward. I will show you tomorrow how little faith I put in your words."

The following morning Carl started for the new shaft alone. Nina refused to accompany him and begged him to delay his visit until the roof was made secure.

Carl reached the shaft just as half a dozen miners come from it, and in answer to his inquiries was told that Fred Chase and another man had remained behind to finish filling the last car with ore.

In a few minutes he was lowered to the bottom of the shaft. In the distance he could see the lights of the two miners. By the light of his own lantern he saw that some of the beams were bent. All seemed weighted to their utmost capacity, and he shuddered as, in passing one large post, a slight crackling sound was heard.

"I am going on a short distance to look at the ore. You may wait for me at the foot of the shaft, and we will all be drawn up at once," said Carl.

He strolled on, while Fred and his companion returned to the entrance. They had barely reached it when they heard a loud report behind, a cry of fear, mingled with the noise of falling rocks; then all was still.

Only an instant did they stand motionless. Then Fred grasped the rope and gave the signal to be hoisted to the top.

Soon the entrance to the shaft was a scene of wild excitement. The father offered large rewards to any one who would attempt the rescue of his son, but not a man would volunteer.

Fred had stood silent, with his eyes bent on the ground, until the old man in sheer despair cried out:

"I will give half of my fortune—and it is a large one—to the man who will help me reach my boy!"

Fred came forward with a look of resolve on his face.

"Mr. Hilton, not for your entire fortune would I enter that mine to save your son, but for humanity's sake I will do my best to rescue him."

A cheer from the miners greeted these brave words. With a wave of his hand Fred commanded silence and, running his eye over the crowd, said slowly:

"I must have three men to help me. Who will go?"

Charles Gray, Fred's chosen companion, stepped to his side. Two more men quickly followed, and they were lowered into the shaft.

The first act of the workers was to place extra beams, which were lowered down the shaft for the purpose, as near as they could to the fallen roof, to bear any strain that might be resting on those already there.

At the end of three hours of cautious digging they came to the car which Fred and his companion had staid behind to fill, and they stopped for a few moments' rest.

In half an hour they had reached an opening caused by two large rocks which had fallen together in such a manner as to leave a space between them. In that space lay Carl, with one arm doubled under him and one foot pinioned by a stone. The poor fellow was terribly bruised and cut, but conscious.

"God bless you, Fred, and your brave companions!" said Mr. Hilton huskily as he grasped the young man by the hand. "From my heart I thank you."

The crowd soon dispersed, and Carl was conveyed to his home. After many weeks of suffering he recovered, but the crushed foot was useless—he was a cripple for life.

As soon as he was able to do so Carl sent for Fred.

"Forgive me, Fred," he said frankly. "I was wrong, but my punishment has been great."

About a year afterward Mr. Hilton bestowed his daughter's hand upon the young man who had saved his son's life, and on his wedding day Fred became one of the owners of the mine.—Exchange.

AN UNPROFESSIONAL REMEDY.

The operation promised to be quite successful, viewed as an operation simply, and yet the great surgeon did not look entirely satisfied as he removed his operating garments and made ready to depart. The eyes of the nurse who had waited upon him gleamed with professional satisfaction as they regarded the work of the morning, but they grew troubled as they fell upon the patient. She bent over and laid her ear against the faintly beating heart.

"She is sinking, doctor," she said. The great specialist turned back from the door he was passing through and came up to the bedside. The young surgeon who had been assisting him and who had modestly stepped aside as the patient was brought into the operating room and prepared for the anæsthetic which he was to administer became as pale as his operating apron. The patient, who had borne the operation and the journey from the operating table back to her own room admirably, looked up at them suddenly, with eyes still dim and unseeing with weakness and languor. Then she lapsed back into unconsciousness, and the great surgeon shook his head gravely.

"She must be stimulated quickly," he told the assistant, "and she must be reminded of the highest possible incentive to live which you can think of as soon as she becomes conscious. This collapse is rather remarkable, considering how well she bore the operation and that she is not of an extremely nervous temperament. Revive her and see that she wishes to live just as quickly as possible."

"She has no incentive to live," the nurse told the younger surgeon as the great man hastened off to the waiting appointment which he could defer no longer. "She told me this morning that she is all alone in the world; that she would be rather glad to die than otherwise, and she only consented to undergo the operation at all because she considers it the duty of every one to make all reasonable efforts to prolong life. She hinted at an unhappy love affair," she concluded as they worked over the patient together, "and said that when the accident which necessitated this operation happened she had hoped that it was all over with her, young as she is."

The young surgeon made no reply, and the nurse, fearing that he thought her forward or unprofessional, blushed scarlet as she bent over the patient. She was a pretty woman herself and still in her first youth, although neither so young nor so beautiful as the motionless girl on the bed. But the young surgeon had no eyes for the blush which his silence had called forth. His face was as pale as hers was rosy, and the hands which lifted the unconscious head of the patient so that the nurse might administer some brandy and water trembled. When the eyelids of the fainting woman began to flicker a little, he moved so that the eyes they shaded should fall upon no one but the nurse. Standing in this position, the patient saw him no more than she had done when he stood behind her at the head of the operating table holding the cone by means of which he was administering the ether. But the young surgeon could see her perfectly, and he scrutinized the delicate, bloodless face with a care and a degree of attention not entirely due to professional interest.

"What do you mean by fainting, Miss Stanley?" exclaimed the nurse in her cheeriest, most professional accents as the wide eyes opened fully. "Don't you know that every time you faint it weakens you a little and that you've got to grow stronger instead of weaker if you want to live?"

"I don't want to live, not really," whispered back the patient weakly. "I don't care whether I live or not. I suppose I've got to try to get better because it seems to be my duty, but I'm too tired to feel like trying hard. What have I got to live for?" she finished to herself, the faint voice trailing off into a scarcely audible murmur.

The young surgeon stepped out from behind the bed head and took firm hold of the little patient's hands.

"Live for me, Margaret," he said intensely. "I was a fool to be jealous of you, to doubt your love and goodness even for a second. I haven't known a happy or a peaceful moment since we parted. I thought my heart would break when I learned that you had been run over and so nearly killed, and it almost stopped beating when you were carried in this morning. Forgive me, Margaret, and live for my sake. We'll prove how good and happy life can be together yet."

The nurse had slipped out of the room for a moment, and they were quite alone. He stooped and kissed her lips. The little patient was still too near to the mysterious realms of unconsciousness to be astonished at anything that happened, and she took the happiness the gods provided in such unexpected fashion quite simply. When the nurse returned, she was sleeping like a baby, one frail little hand clasped in that of the young surgeon, and when the great surgeon stopped at her bedside the next morning her eyes were already bright with the hope of returning health, if no more.

"What's this I hear about your fainting yesterday?" he cried in cheery professional reproof. "Don't you know that such unreasonable conduct retards your recovery, my dear young lady, and don't you want to get well quickly?"

"Indeed I do, doctor," came the little patient's instantaneous reply. "I've so much to live for!"

And the nurse, although she maintained a discreet professional impassivity of attitude and facial expression, found it difficult to repress a sympathetic smile. —Chicago Tribune.

DIED.—Salem Journal Oct. 26: At the Oregon Hospital for the Insane, Thursday morning, October 25, 1900, Mrs C B DuBois, aged 71 years. Mrs DuBois was committed to the asylum twelve years ago from this city, and was well known here, having been at one time the landlady of the Willamette hotel, then the Chemeketa. Her husband is now living at McMinnville and is himself quite ill. The remains were shipped to Albany today for burial, accompanied by a son, Joe. DuBois, of McMinnville.

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Spokane Flyer 6 p m	Walla Walla, Lewiston, Spokane, Minneapolis, St Paul, Duluth Milwaukee, Chicago and East.	8:40 a m.
8 p m	OCEAN STEAMSHIPS All Sailing dates subject to change. For San Francisco—Sail every 5 days	4 p m
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7 a m Tues, Thur and Sat	WILLAMETTE AND YAMHILL RIVERS Oregon City, Dayton and Way Landings.	3:30 p m Mon, Wed and Fri.
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Ar	Ogden	5:45 a m	11:45 a m
Ar	Denver	9:00 a m	9:00 a m
Ar	Kansas City	7:25 a m	7:25 a m
Ar	Chicago	7:45 a m	9:30 a m
Ar	Los Angeles	1:20 p m	7:00 a m
Ar	El Paso	6:00 p m	9:00 p m
Ar	Fort Worth	6:30 a m	6:30 a m
Ar	City of Mexico	9:55 a m	9:55 a m
Ar	Houston	4:00 a m	4:00 a m
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